

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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R 191305Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3481

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 0936

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, CASC (LIFSCULTZ, LAWRENCE S.)

SUBJ: FORCED DEPARTURE OF JOURNALIST

1. LAWRENCE S. LIFSCULTZ (U.S. NATIONAL) ADVISES EMBASSY HIS VISA IS NOT BEING RENEWED AND HE WILL BE FORCED TO LSAVE INDIA FOR WHAT HE BELIEVES IS A STORY (FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, JANUARY 16) ON THE GOI TAKE OVER OF CONTROL OF

INDIAN EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS.

2. LIFSCULTZ THEORIZES THE CAUSE FOR THIS ACTION IS BECAUSE HE DID NOT PRESENT GOI SIDE OF CASE IN HIS INITIAL REPORT THOUGH THE MAGAZINE DID PUBLISH IT THE FOLLOWING WEEK. ALSO FEELS JAN 2 ARTICLE ON NAXALITES COULD BE ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTING FACTOR.

3. HE IS APPEALING CASE THROUGH MOI AND MEA CHANNELS AND RATES HIS CHANCES OF A REVERSAL AT ONLY 40 PER CENT.

4. LIFSCULTZ INFORMS EMBASSY WALL STREET JOURNAL NOW HAS 49 PERCENT INTEREST IN FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC

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REVIEW

AND THOUGH OTHER INVESTMENTS EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF THIS PUBLICATION. CORRESPONDENT ALSO REPRESENTS MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

5. WE HAVE BEEN GOING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALTHOUGH LIFSHULTZ IS AN AMERICAN AND ENTITLED TO CONSULAR PROTECTION, HE IS NOT REPRESENTING AMERICAN PRESS INTERESTS AND THEREFORE WE HAVE NO DIRECT INTEREST IN HIS FORCED DEPARTURE. WE HAD BEEN UNAWARE OF THE WALL STREET JOURNAL INTEREST IN THE FEER. REQUEST DEPTADVISE WHETHER IT BELIEVES WE SHOULD "PROTEST" OR OTHERWISE EXPRESS USG INTEREST IN LIFSHULTZ CASE.

SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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